

at different elections, and supported, for instance, Cleveland first and then McKinley. To my somewhat grim amusement, the chief representatives oil* thin class, or ttt least a majority, went into a futile conspiracy against mo of which they sought to make Mr. Hanna the head; and at that time they expected that if they could not nominate* Mr. Hanna or some one who would be agreeable to Mr. Hanna, they would nominate Mr. Parker on the Democratic ticket and turn in and elect him. But their plan miscarried at every point, and it was merely a purely rich man's conspiracy, not a politician's conspiracy at all¹*

Periodically the President was called upon to reason like a veritable "Dutch Uncle" with Senator T. C. Platt of New York on the subject of the proper use of public office. An excellent example of his method in these emergencies is furnished in this letter to the Senator on June 17, 1906;

"I am not yet prepared to announce my decision about Mr. Hanna, but I must emphatically dissent from your statement that 'it ought to suffice for me to simply say that I prefer Y* to H.?'; and furthermore, that the appointment would 'be recognized as an affront to the Senior Senator from the State of New York'; and furthermore from your statement running as follows: * You and I disagreed some years ago upon a previous judicial appointment in this district. Any fair-minded lawyer, or observer, if he were honest, would tell you to-day that the

appointment which
was made was a mistake from the standpoint
of superior
administration.' As to this last statement I
take
absolutely with you, I have taken
particular

to
inquire from all the members of the bar
opinion

I
regard as most worthy of attention, and it is
practically
unanimous that he is an exceptionally fine
judge and head
and shoulders above every other man who at
that time it
was possible to obtain for the position,

"In the next place, as to the *affront¹ to you;
I do not
understand how you can make such a
statement It is my